

SECRETARY OF STATE.



JOHN SHERMAN.

The premier of the McKinley Cabinet, Senator John Sherman, of Ohio, was born at Lancaster, O., May 10, 1823. He may be said to have got his first taste of office when a schoolboy, for he left an academy at fifteen years of age to take a position with a Government surveying party, a position he soon lost under the operation of the spoils system of that day, which then never gloved its claws, and was as candid as it was far-reaching. It took but one year of hard century since John Sherman was chosen a delegate to the Whig National Convention of 1848. It is more than forty years since he entered the House of Representatives, and he may be said to have come into the Senate with President Lincoln's first administration, for he took his seat in that body March 23, 1851. Mr. Sherman was always an active man in public office, but his genius did not find its most favorable field for expression until the unusual isolation of the war time came, and thence forward his name is linked with the monetary course of the nation. He

championed the national banking system when it was deemed an innovation; he stamped the refunding act, and that providing for the redemption of specie payments which he, as Secretary of the Treasury under President Hayes, put in operation. When Garfield succeeded Hayes, Mr. Sherman returned to the Senate. It was his great familiarity with our finances and his distinction as a creative financier that caused so many expressions of surprise that Mr. McKinley should select Senator Sherman as head of the Department of State. His ability for the latter post was not questioned, but he had proved himself, as the head of the Treasury Department and as the author of financial measures of far-reaching importance, whereas he has yet to demonstrate that his intimacy with our foreign relations is equally exact. That he has been on the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations is too well-known to need more than a passing statement, but to the public this has seemed but a side issue of his ability.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL.



JUDGE JOSEPH MCKENNA.

Judge Joseph McKenna, the new Attorney-General, was born in Philadelphia in 1832. When twelve years of age he was taken by his parents to California, the family settling at Benecia. He studied law at St. Augustine College, being admitted to the bar in 1855. In the same year, when twenty-two years of age, he was elected District Attorney of Solano county, holding the position for four years. In 1858 he was elected a member of the State Legislature, and in the following year he was a candidate for Congress from the Thirty-third District, being defeated by John K. Luttrell.

Two years later, however, he was elected to Congress, holding the position for four successive terms, his majority at the polls increasing with each succeeding election from 219 in 1873 to 5,000 in 1880. While serving his fourth congressional term he was appointed by President Harrison, in 1882, Judge of the United States Circuit Court, succeeding Judge Sawyer. He has rendered many important decisions, notably in connection with the railroad legislation in California, during his five years of service on the bench. Judge McKenna has a wife and two daughters, who are prominent in society.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.



CORNELIUS N. BLISS.

Cornelius N. Bliss, of New York, the new Secretary of the Interior, was born in Fall River, Mass., about sixty years ago. At the age of twenty he entered his father's commission house, in New Orleans, and in 1855 went to Boston, where he entered the employ of James M. Debevoise & Co. In a short time he became a member of that firm. In 1862 he went into partnership with John and Eben Wright & Co. This firm opened a branch store in New York city, which was placed under the management of Mr. Bliss, and soon it became the big end of the business. To-day it is Bliss, Faber & Co., and is recognized as one of the leading dry goods firms. Mr. Bliss has always been interested in politics, but never held any political office, except the honorary one of member of the Pan-American Conference. He declined the nomination for Governor in 1885, when Ira Davenport was nominated, and when his friends were urging the nomination on him in 1891 he went to Europe. He was chairman of the Industrial Men's Committee, which tried to nominate Arthur in 1884, and was chairman of the famous Committee of Thirty in 1893. Although not in complete harmony with the State Republican organization, Mr. Bliss has financed the Republican National Committee in the last two Presidential campaigns. His acceptance of the position of treasurer of the committee last year was at the express and urgent solicitation of Mayor McKinley and Mr. Hanna. One of his rules was that no obligation should be incurred unless the money was in hand to meet it when due.

Twenty-four senators, who have occupied seats in this chamber during his body. Five of that number—Stanford, Colquhoun, Vance, Stockbridge, and Wilson—shattered with the contention of the Great Hall—full of years and honors, fall of the gavel will conclude the long and honorable terms of service of our senators, who will be borne in kind remembrance by their associates as testimonials. I would do violence to my feelings if I failed to express my thanks to the officers of this body for the fidelity with which they have discharged their im-

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S OFFICIAL FAMILY.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.



LYMAN J. GAGE.

Lyman J. Gage, Secretary of the Treasury, was born at De Ruyter, Madison county, N. Y., June 23, 1836. His parents, Eli A. and Mary Judson Gage, were descended from English stock, and were born in New York State. Lyman was taken to Rome, N. Y., when ten years of age, where he remained four years. His term in that institution practically constituted his entire scholastic education. His first position in business life was as clerk in the Rome postoffice and later he became route agent on the Rome and Watertown railroad. In 1854 Mr. Gage obtained his first bank position, being employed in the Onondaga Central Bank at Rome, at a salary of \$100 a year. He remained there a year and a half, and in the fall of 1855 he arrived in Chicago. He took the first position he could get, with a lumberyard and planing-mill firm. He was engaged as bookkeeper but did other general utility work, such as loading and unloading lumber and tanning. The extreme business depression of 1858 compelled the firm to discontinue with him, and he was compelled to seek other employment. He had no job at all. Mr. Gage worked for six weeks as night watchman of the firm's property. While engaged in that humble, but bread-winning capacity, the opportunity of Mr. Gage's life came to him by the way of the position of bookkeeper for the Merchants Savings, Loan and Trust Company. From that position, nearly two years ago, Mr. Gage's career has been marked by long and arduous strides, until today he occupies the highest position which can be attained in any financial institution in Chicago. At the inception of the World's Fair enterprise Mr. Gage showed his faith in the financial outcome, as well as his confidence in Chicago, by practically guaranteeing, with three other wealthy citizens, that Chicago would carry out its pledge of raising the money for the exposition. This guarantee had great influence with the United States Senate Committee, and was largely instrumental in securing the Fair for Chicago. Mr. Gage was unanimously chosen president of the World's Fair Board of Directors, but upon his election to the presidency of the bank he was compelled to resign from the place.

portant duties, and for the timely assistance and unfailing courtesy, of which I have been the recipient.

For the able and distinguished gentlemen who succeeded to your place as the President of the United States, I earnestly invoke the same cooperation and courtesy you have so generously accorded me.

Senators, my parting words have been spoken, and I now discharge my last official duty, that of declaring the Senate adjourned without day.

HOBART'S ADDRESS.
After being sworn in, Vice-President Hobart spoke as follows:
Senators: To have been elected to preside over the Senate of the United States is a distinction which any citizen would prize, and the manifestation of confidence which it implies is an honor which I sincerely appreciate.

My gratitude and loyalty to the people of the country to whom I owe this honor, and my duty to you, as well as demand such a conservative, equitable, and conscientious construction and enforcement of your rules as shall promote the well-being and prosperity of the people, and at the same time conserve the time-honored precedents and established traditions which have contributed to make this tribunal the most distinguished of the legislative bodies of the world.

In entering upon the duties of the office to which I have been chosen, I feel a peculiar delicacy, for I am aware that your body, with whom, for a time, I will be associated, has had but a small voice in the selection of its presiding officer, and that I am called upon to conduct your deliberations, while not perhaps your choice, in point of either merit or fitness.

It will be my constant effort to aid you, so far as I may, in all reasonable expedient of the business of the Senate, and I may be permitted to express the belief that such expedition is the hope of the country. All the interests of good government and the advancement toward a higher and better condition of things, call for prompt and positive legislation at your hands. To obstruct the course of wise and prudent legislative action, after the fullest and freest discussion, is neither consistent with true senatorial courtesy, conducive to the welfare of the people, nor in compliance with their just expectations.

WILL ASK THEIR AID.
While assisting in the settlement of the grave questions which devolve upon the Senate of the United States, it will be my endeavor to so guide its deliberations that its wisdom may be made fruitful in works, whilst at the same time exercising such fairness and impartiality with the rules of the Senate as shall deserve at least your good opinion for the sincerity of my effort.

Unfamiliar with your rules and manner of procedure, I can only promise that I will bring all the ability I possess to the faithful discharge of every duty as it may devolve upon me, relying always on your suggestions, your advice, and your cooperation. I should not feel equal to the task did I not trust and fully anticipate that indulgent aid and consideration which you have at all times given to my predecessors, and without which I could not hope to acquit myself to your satisfaction or with any degree of personal credit.

It shall be my highest aim to justify the confidence the people have reposed in me by discharging my duties in such a manner as to lighten your labors, secure your appreciation of my honest endeavor to administer your rules with an eye single to the public good, and promote the pleasant and efficient transaction of the public business.

I trust that our official and personal relations may be alike agreeable; that the friendships we may form here may be genuine and lasting; and that the work of the Senate may redound to the peace and honor of the country, and the prosperity and happiness of all the people.

The war being over, he returned to Michigan and entered upon the lumber business. He employed new methods of operating, and by introducing the use of railroads to remove logs from the forest, rapidly increased his business. His wealth rapidly increased as he extended his operations to other States and Territories. While he is a multi-millionaire, his public spirit has grown with his resources, and he has realized that possession of great wealth also carries corresponding increased responsibilities. The latest incredible statement is made that in a business career of nearly thirty years, although having thousands of men in his employ, he has realized that no man, in any kind of difficulty with his work-

man.

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quired his brother and sister and prepared himself to enter a law office. In a year or two he was qualified for admission to the bar, and went to Cleveland, Ohio, to enter upon his profession.

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SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.



JOHN D. LONG.

The new Secretary of the Navy was born in Buckfield, Me., October 27, 1838.

He was a son of parents who had neither poverty nor riches, but possessed the golden mean which enables so many New England rural families to look forward to sending sons into the world well educated, well trained to try their chances in the learned professions. After a preparatory course at Hebron Academy, Mr. Long entered Harvard, where he graduated in 1857, some months before he had attained his nineteenth birthday. He was prominent for a number of years in Massachusetts politics, having been in turn member of the Legislature, Lieutenant-Governor and Governor for three terms.

Mr. Long was elected to the Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Congresses, where he confirmed on the stage of national affairs the reputation he had won in Massachusetts. At the dedica-

tion of the Washington monument Mr. Long read the oration which Hon. Robert C. Winthrop had prepared, but which he was prevented by illness from delivering in person.

That Mr. Long is a man of scholarly tastes and abilities is manifest from a mere narration of his life. Busy as he has been he has found time to keep up his scholarship and in 1879 he published a translation of the Eneid which ran through several editions. He has delivered many addresses, mainly historical, Harvard gave him the degree of LL. D. in 1890 and he is a member of many learned societies, including the Massachusetts Historical Society. An active abolitionist, he has also been president of the Unitarian Club.

Greatly interested in temperance work through the advocacy of moral suasion he has long been president of the Massachusetts Total Abstinence Society. An active abolitionist, he has also been president of the Unitarian Club.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.



JAMES WILSON.

The new Secretary of Agriculture is spoken of by Iowans, who know him well, as a large, all-round man. His career in Congress was creditable, but, perhaps, not brilliant. Mr. Wilson is not an easy talker and makes little claim to oratory. His speeches are substantial rather than eloquent. In politics he represents the reaction of the Republican party of Iowa in the fall of 1855, buying Government land in Tama county. James is the oldest of a family of fourteen children, seven boys and seven girls. For many years Mr. Wilson was a teacher in the country schools near old Buckingham and West Union, and so poor was he that even in the coldest weather he was compelled to go barefooted. In the course of time he accumulated money enough to purchase the magnificent farm which he now owns in Tama county. He was a member of the Forty-third, Forty-fourth, and Forty-fifth Congresses, and it is a singular coincidence that he introduced the bill creating the office to which he has been appointed.

James Wilson was born August 16, 1835, in Ayreboro, Scotland, of parentage belonging to the farming class. His parents immigrated to Connecticut in the spring of 1852, and began farming in the vicinity of Norwich. They came to Iowa in the fall of 1855, buying Government land in Tama county. James is the oldest of a family of fourteen children, seven boys and seven girls. For many years Mr. Wilson was a teacher in the country schools near old Buckingham and West Union, and so poor was he that even in the coldest weather he was compelled to go barefooted. In the course of time he accumulated money enough to purchase the magnificent farm which he now owns in Tama county. He was a member of the Forty-third, Forty-fourth, and Forty-fifth Congresses, and it is a singular coincidence that he introduced the bill creating the office to which he has been appointed.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL.



JAMES A. GARY.

James A. Gary, of Baltimore, is the new Postmaster-General. He is one of the solid business men of Baltimore, and is the head of the firm of James S. Gary & Son, proprietors of large cotton mills.

He owns other valuable business properties in Baltimore and Howard counties and has been repeatedly called upon to share in the management of financial and other business corporations in Baltimore. He was president for several years of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, and is now vice-president of the Consolidated Gas Company and vice-president of the Citizens' National Bank. He also holds directorships in the Savings Bank of Baltimore, the Warehouse

Company, the Merchants and Manufacturers' Insurance Company and the Baltimore Trust and Guaranty Company. An ardent Unionist during the civil war, Mr. Gary has been a Republican ever since. In 1870 the Republicans nominated him for Congress in the fifth district, which was Democratic at that time, and he was defeated. In 1873 the Republicans nominated him for Governor. In those days the State was Democratic, and Mr. Gary failed of election, although he made an active campaign. He has been a delegate to every national convention of his party since 1872, and from 1889 to 1894 represented Maryland upon the Republican National Committee.

SECRETARY OF WAR.



GENERAL RUSSELL A. ALGER.

The career of General Russell A. Alger, who has the war portfolio in President McKinley's Cabinet, is an encouraging study for those who have life still before them, with its responsibilities to meet and its prizes to win. If their destiny has selected them for winners.

At thirteen years of age he was left an orphan, with a parent's responsibilities. He had a brother and a sister, both younger than himself. That was absolutely destitute. He found places for his little dependents, and let his own services for his board and clothing, and three months' schooling each year, after a time receiving small monthly wages as a farm hand, and attending the Richmond Academy for several terms in the winter season.

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